

# **Community Legal Aid**

A non-profit law firm serving the legal needs of low-income individuals and families in central northeast Ohio

[www.communitylegalaid.org](http://www.communitylegalaid.org)

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How should I return my keys?

## **How should I return my keys?**

Returning your keys is seen by the court as an official step in moving out.

If you don't return your keys, your landlord can argue that you didn't officially move out. This can mean they can try to evict you, even if your eviction was dismissed already, or they can argue to the court that you owe them more money.

Be sure to return your keys on time. You may have to pay more for each day that you hold onto your keys.

When you return your keys, bring a witness with you and have your landlord write you a receipt with the date and their signature. If you can't return your keys in person to your landlord, return them in person to their attorney.

If you do return your keys before your eviction hearing, bring your receipt and witness with you to court.

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